University of Toronto Opera

MOZART'S The Marriage of Figaro

(Le nozze di Figaro)

Thursday November 21st @ 7:30 pm • Friday November 22nd @ 7:30 pm
Saturday November 23rd @ 7:30 pm • Sunday November 24th @ 2:30 pm

MacMillan Theatre, 80 Queen's Park

This production is made possible in part by a generous gift from Marina Yoshida in honour of Sandra Horst.

We wish to acknowledge this land on which the University of Toronto operates. For thousands of years it has been the traditional land of the Huron-Wendat, the Seneca, and most recently, the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. Today, this meeting place is still the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island and we are grateful to have the opportunity to work on this land.

The Marriage of Figaro
(Le nozze di Figaro)

Composer: W.A. Mozart, Libretto: Lorenzo Da Ponte

Rental
Borrowed
from UofT
opera Dept.

Conductor: Sandra Horst
Director: Michael Patrick Albano
Production Design: Fred Perruzza
Costume Design: Lisa Magill
Stage Manager: Susan Monis Brett*
Assistant Director: Mario Pacheco
Assistant Stage Manager: Ardavan Taraporewala
Assistant Conductor: Susan Black
Dramatic Coach: Laura Tucker
Répétiteurs: Brandon Tran, Benjamin Zsoldos
Fandango Dance: Anna Theodosakis
Dance Captain: Karine White

Additional support for new costumes generously provided by Janet Stubbs.

*By permission of Canadian Actors' Equity Association

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
FACULTY OF MUSIC

SURTITLES™ written by Gunta Dreifelds and prepared and operated by John Sharpe. SURTITLES™ invented at the Canadian Opera Company in 1983 and introduced worldwide with their production of *Elektra* by Richard Strauss.

Please note that photography and recording are strictly prohibited during the performance. Kindly turn off all electronic devices as a courtesy to the performers and your fellow patrons.

CAST	Nov. 21/23	Nov. 22/24
Count Almaviva, *a Spanish nobleman*	Nicholas Higgs	Adam Kuiack
Countess Almaviva, *his wife*	Saige Carlson	Sacha Smith
Susanna, *the Countess's maid, promised in marriage to*	Maeve Palmer	Midori Marsh
Figaro, *the Count's valet*	Korin Thomas-Smith	Alex Halliday
Cherubino, *the Count's page*	Lindsay Connolly	Alexandra Fee
Bartolo, *a Doctor from Seville*	Parker Clements	Parker Clements
Marcellina, *his former housekeeper*	Renee Fajardo	Juliana Krajčovič
Basilio, *a music teacher*	Elias Theocharidis	River Guard
Don Curzio, *a judge*	Arieh Sacke	David Walsh
Barbarina, *daughter of*	Mèlissa Danis	Mèlissa Danis
Antonio, *the Count's gardener and Susanna's uncle*	Danlie Acebuque	Wesley Hui
Bridesmaids	Grace Liang Chelsea Pringle-Duchemin	Khadija Mbowe Olivia LaPointe
Chorus of Countrymen and Women	U of T Opera Undergraduate Artists	

The action takes place in the mid-18th century at Aguas Frescas, the estate of Count Almaviva located three leagues from Seville.

There will be one intermission of 20 minutes after Act 2.

UNDERSTUDIES

Bartolo – Wesley Hui
Barbarina – Kathryn Rose Johnston

U OF T OPERA UNDERGRADUATE ARTISTS

Danlie Rae Acebuque, Madelaine Battista, Ana Isabella Castro, Anna-Julia David, Sebastian Gayowsky, Olivia Guselle, Wesley Hui, Kathryn Rose Johnston, Olivia LaPointe, Claire Latosinsky, Elizabeth Legierski, Grace Liang, Kristian Lo, Sophia Mackey, Khadija Mbowe, Maria Milenic, Angelo Moretti, Danielle Nicholson, Luke Noftall, Chelsea Pringle-Duchemin, Emily Rocha, Arieh Sacke, Alessia Vitali, David Walsh

ORCHESTRA

Violin I
Peter Daniel Wowk, *concertmaster*
Emily Bosenius
Grace Choi
Eleanor Hector
Claire Heinrichs
Claire Hur
Lucy Warren
May Yu

Violin II
Lexi Li, *principal*
David Baik
Miguel Esteban
Matthias Ng
Sophia Won
Marcus Wong
Saba Yousefi-Taemeh

Viola
Samuel Edwards, *principal*
Andrew Chan
Matthew Chan
Jocelyn Choi
Raphael Salonga

Cello
Madeleine Smith, *principal*
Dominic Kim
Lyndon Kwan
Brendan Rogers
Else Sather

Double Bass
Peter Eratostene, *principal*
Mikka Choi
Chiara Culmone

Flute I
Nerses Amirkhanyan

Flute II
Rebecca Moranis

Oboe I
Bradley Duffy

Oboe II
Daniel Mok

Clarinet I
Adriana Elizabeth Jankovic

Clarinet II
Bruce Luo

Bassoon I
Zachary Senick

Bassoon II
Rae Pauze

Horn I
Ilinca Stafie

Horn II
Lucy Nesbitt

Trumpet I
Charles Watson

Trumpet II
Declan Scott

Timpani
Mateen Mehri

Harpsichord
Brandon Tran
Benjamin Zsoldos

Coming up in January 2020

OPERA STUDENT COMPOSER COLLECTIVE presents
Maid and Master: The Massey Murder
Libretto by Michael Patrick Albano
Sun Jan 19 | 2:30 pm | MacMillan Theatre | Free
Made possible in part by a generous gift from Dianne W. Henderson.

Coffee with the Composers
Sun Jan 19 | 1 to 2 pm | Geiger-Torel Room | Free
Before the performance of *Maid and Master: The Massey Murder*, join Colin McMahon and our student composers for an informal roundtable discussing the challenge and exhilaration of creating a new opera.

U OF T OPERA AT THE FACULTY OF MUSIC

Sandra Horst	**Director of Musical Studies**
Michael Patrick Albano	**Resident Stage Director**
Russell Braun	**Resident Operatic Specialist**
Wendy Nielsen, Steven Philcox, Daniel Taylor, Andrea Grant, Rachel Andrist, Kate Carver, Susan Black	**Musical Coaching**
Jason Nedecky	**Diction**
Anna Theodosakis	**Movement**
Christina Bell	**Scheduling and Administration**

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Cover artwork: Lisa Magill; Cover design: Elias Theocharidis

PRODUCTION

Ian Albright	**Technical Director, MacMillan Theatre**
Les Stockley	**Technical Assistant**
Ross Hammond	**Production Assistant**
Lisa Magill	**Head of Wardrobe**
Julia Helms, Madeline Ius	**Wardrobe Assistants**
James Bolton	**Hair and Makeup Artist**
Andrew McTaggart	**Head Carpenter**
Samantha Brown	**Scenic Artist**
Marie Gravelle	**Props/Followspot**
Michele Morgan	**Set Decoration**
Joey Morgan	**Flyman**
Heather Kilner	**Stage Crew**
Sean Carnegie	**Stage Crew/Assistant Carpenter**
Nick Davidson	**Stage Crew**
Karen Wiseman	**Librarian, Performance Collection**

Synopsis

ACT I - A storage room between the bedroom of the Count and the boudoir of the Countess.
Figaro and Susanna, engaged to be married suspect their employer, Count Almaviva to have designs upon Susanna. To further complicate matters, Figaro owes money to Marcellina, Dr. Bartolo's former housekeeper and must marry her if he cannot repay the debt. Cherubino, the adolescent pageboy visits Susanna on the morning of her wedding and extols his admiration of all the women on the estate, particularly the Countess. Hearing the approach of the Count, Cherubino hides and thus hears the Count's overtures to Susanna. The intrusion of Basilio, the music master, causes the Count to conceal himself as well. Before long, all are exposed to each other's secrets. Figaro brings a group of villagers to remind the Count of his vow to abolish the feudal right of claiming a bride on her wedding night. Annoyed, the Count announces that he will abolish the custom at a time of his own choosing.

ACT II - The boudoir of the Countess Almaviva
The Countess mourns her husband's fading affections. She is not convinced of Figaro's plan against the Count which would necessitate Cherubino masquerading as Susanna. Hearing the Count approach, Cherubino hides. Certain that his wife is concealing a lover in her locked dressing room, the Count takes her with him to fetch tools to force the door. While they are away, Susanna frees Cherubino, who jumps through the window. The Count and the Countess return and to the embarrassment of the Count, find only Susanna. Antonio, the gardener bursts in, angered by trampled flowers caused by Cherubino's jump. Figaro attempts to explain it all away but is interrupted by the entrance of Marcellina, Bartolo, and Basilio who have come to support Marcellina's claim of marriage to Figaro.

INTERMISSION

ACT III - The Count's study
Susanna tells the Count she will submit to him in return for a generous dowry that would pay Figaro's debt to Marcellina but Don Curzio, the Count's lawyer has ruled in support of Marcellina's claim to Figaro's hand in marriage. However, an unexpected discovery changes that plan, to the delight of all but the Count. A group of peasant girls, coming to pay tribute to the Countess, proves to have a familiar face in the crowd: Cherubino, disguised as a girl to avoid detection. Festivities ensue, and a spurious note is passed to the Count.

ACT IV - The gardens of the estate
Barbarina bewails that she has lost the token pin the Count had asked her to deliver to Susanna confirming their assignation in the garden that evening. This news leaves Figaro lamenting the faithlessness of all women. Disguised as each other, Susanna and the Countess lead much of the male population of the estate into confusion. Gradually realizing the game, Figaro takes the opportunity to tease Susanna and they are soon reconciled but the Count is slower to catch on. When all is revealed, the Count begs forgiveness of the Countess and the evening ends in celebration.

Thank you for your support!

The Faculty of Music gratefully acknowledges the generosity of the individuals, foundations, and corporations who gave annual gifts of $1,000 or more between May 1, 2018 and October 31, 2019, in support of our students and programs. Thank you for the part you are playing in advancing the cause of music education in Canada.

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We are pleased to acknowledge those donors who have made annual gifts
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For information on giving opportunities for U of T Opera and the Continuo Program at the Faculty of Music please contact Tyler Greenleaf at 416-946-3580.

Richard Holbrook (1945-2019)

Richard Holbrook (far left) with U of T Opera students, September 2015. Photo by Andrea Lett.

The Faculty of Music's Opera Division is privileged to dedicate this production of *The Marriage of Figaro* to the memory of Richard Holbrook.

Richard's love of opera was demonstrated through the establishment of numerous scholarships, the facilitation of opera performance research and many other expressions of personal encouragement to our young singers.

Keenly aware of the advantage of exposure to the professional world, Richard sponsored master classes of visiting professionals and an annual trip for the entire student body of the opera program to the Metropolitan Opera in New York, giving our young artists the opportunity to hear today's high profile singers in one of the world's great opera houses.

Richard's generosity of spirit was exemplary. Together with his wife, Donna and daughter, Meredith, he warmly welcomed our students to their home. Those evenings of friendship and conviviality remain cherished memories of our dearly missed friend.

Nov. 21-23, 2019

In today's performance:

Mélissa Danis will sing the role of **Barbarina**

The **First Trumpet** will be played by Charlotte McIntosh

Burak Yaman appears with the **U of T Opera Undergrad Artists**

Olivia LaPointe and Khadija Mbowe will sing the **Bridesmaids**

Fri

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Sat
+
Sun

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